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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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ARMED BANK ROBBER SENTENCED

BALTIMORE, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Allen F. Loucks announces that today U.S. District Court Judge Andre M. Davis sentenced Teledo Howard Smith, age 28, of Baltimore, Maryland to 125 months in prison followed by five years of supervised release in connection with his guilty plea on February 25, 2004 to bank robbery and use of a firearm during a crime of violence. Judge Davis also ordered Smith to pay approximately \$22,000 in restitution.

According to the agreed statement of facts presented to the court, on September 29, 2003, Smith and co-defendant Kevin Maurice Lawson entered Wachovia Bank located at 5439 Harford Road, Baltimore, Maryland. The defendants approached the manager and several victim tellers and demanded money. Lawson, armed with a black revolver, held the employees at gun point. Smith went to each teller and gathered up deposits totaling \$36,086. The defendants then took the money and left the bank. A few minutes later the defendants were arrested. Subsequent searches recovered \$13,729 in U.S. currency, a money strap stamped Wachovia Bank, a black Webley .45 caliber revolver, and ammunition. Lawson previously pled guilty on May 20, 2004 and was sentenced to 262 months in prison.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bonnie S. Greenberg.